Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 20 through page 9, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 3 shows various Aβ and human lens protein interactions. Figure 3A shows the binding of increasing concentrations of recombinant human αB-crystallin to immobilized synthetic human Aβ1-42, synthetic human Aβ1-40, or bovine serum albumin (BSA) after 1 hour incubation. Figure 3B shows the competition of binding by addition of excess free Aβ. Figure 3C shows that Aβ and αB-crystallin co-aggregate after 7 days incubation *in vitro*. Human soluble lens protein extract (TLP, 1 mg/ml) co-incubated with synthetic human Aβ1-42 (45 μg/ml, 10 μM) for 7 days and examined by anti-Aβ/anti-αB-crystallin double IEM. Larger gold particles (15 nm diameter) detect Aβ immunoreactivity. Smaller gold particles (10 nm diameter) detect anti-αB-crystallin immunoreactivity. Black arrows indicate curvilinear protofibril structures within electron-dense amorphous aggregates. Also shown are precipitated aggregates stained with Congo Red and viewed by brightfield (top inset) or strong cross-polarized light (bottom inset) illumination. Figure 3D shows TLP co-incubated with synthetic human Aβ1-42 and examined by anti-Aβ/anti-αB-crystallin double IEM using primary antibodies pre-absorbed with excess synthetic human Aβ1-40 and purified recombinant human αB-crystallin. Figure 3E shows TLP co-incubated with synthetic human Aβ1-42 and assayed with non-immune mouse IgG and rabbit serum. Figure 3F shows TLP incubated without Aβ and assayed as in Figure 3C. Also shown is synthetic human Aβ1-42 incubated without TLP and assayed as in Figure 3C. As shown in Figure 3G, Aβ incubated alone revealed only single-label immunostaining for AB. The insert boxes in the figures illustrate gold particle size (to scale) in the micrograph. Scale bars = 100nm.